IMAGE FORMING DEVICE

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Patent number:

JP6161295

Publication date:

1994-06-07

Inventor:

OZASA TAKESHI

Applicant:

CANON KK

Classification:

- international:

G03G15/16; G03G15/16; G03G15/00; G03G15/02;

G03G21/00

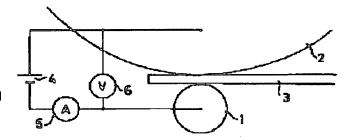
- european:

Application number: JP19920317263 19921126 Priority number(s): JP19920317263 19921126

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Abstract of JP6161295

PURPOSE:To always impart a stable transfer current to a transfer roller and to obtain an excellent image by feeding a transfer material on trial before an actual copy and providing a means measuring a resistance value among the transfer roller, the transfer material and a photosensitive body when the transfer material is between the transfer roller and the photosensitive body. CONSTITUTION:At the time of taking a copying action, the transfer material 3 is fed on trial by one and when the transfer material 3 is inset-held between the transfer roller 1 and the photosensitive body 2, a test current is applied from a power source 4 and a voltage flowing in the transfer roller 1, the transfer material 3 and the photosensitive body 2 at this time is measured, to calculate all resistance values from the relation of the applied current and voltage. Then, an inverse operation is attained from the obtained resistance values, the applied voltage for obtaining a transfer current required for an optimum transfer is determined and the determined voltage is applied in the actual copying action. Thus a stable transfer voltage can be always imparted according to a change in conditions.



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(19)日本国特許庁(JP)

(12)公開特許公報 (A)

(11)特許出願公開番号

特開平6-161295

(43)公開日 平成6年(1994)6月7日

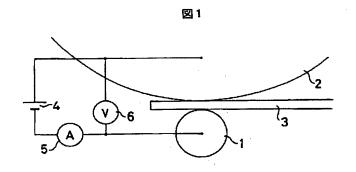
(51) Int. Cl. 5	識別記号 103		FΙ				
G03G 15/16							
15/00	108	7369-2H					
	303						
15/02	102		審査請求	大請未 対	請求項の数24	(全14頁)	最終頁に続く
(21) 出願番号	特願平4-317263		(7	1)出願人		41.	
					キヤノン株式会社 東京都大田区下丸子3丁目30番2号		
(22) 出願日	平成4年(1992)11月26日		(7	(72)発明者 小笹 剛			
				4) 元明有	東京都大田区下		0番2号 キヤ
			(7	4)代理人			3名)
					•		
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(54) 【発明の名称】画像形成装置

(57) 【要約】

【目的】 従来の転写ローラの制御以外に、転写材の体 積抵抗値の変化に基づき転写電流、電圧を制御して、転 写抜け等の転写不良を防ぎ、良好な画像を得ること。

【構成】 ローラ転写部材を用いて感光体上のトナーを転写材に転写させる方式を用いた画像形成装置において、実複写操作開始前に、転写材を試し流しする手段を持ち、その際に転写ローラと感光体との間に、転写材がはさまっている状態で転写ローラ〜転写材〜感光体の間の電流、電圧又は体積抵抗を測定する手段を持つことを特徴とする。



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【特許請求の範囲】

【請求項1】 電子写真方式を用いて感光体表面上にトナー画像を形成し、ローラ転写部材を用いて感光体上のトナーを転写材に転写させる方式を用いた画像形成装置において、

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実複写動作開始前に、転写材を試し流しする手段を持ち、その際に、転写ローラと感光体との間に、転写材がはさまっている状態で転写ローラ〜転写材〜感光体の間の電流、電圧又は体積抵抗を測定する手段を持つことを特徴とする画像形成装置。

【請求項2】 請求項1において、測定された電流、電 圧又は抵抗値に基づいて転写電流を制御する手段を持つ ことを特徴とする画像形成装置。

【請求項3】 請求項1において、測定された電流、電 圧又は抵抗値によって転写電圧を制御する手段を持つこ とを特徴とする画像形成装置。

【請求項4】 請求項1において、1の動作を行なうタイミングを毎コピー動作時、ある一定毎数ごと、給紙トレイ選択時又は毎メインスイッチON時に行なうことを特徴とする画像形成装置。

【請求項5】 請求項1において、動作により試し流しを行なった転写材を本体内に一次保存してコピー時に再度利用することを特徴とする画像形成装置。

【請求項6】 請求項5において、動作時に、転写材を 定着器を通さずに本体内に一時保存することを特徴とす る画像形成装置。

【請求項7】 電子写真方式を用いて感光体表面上にトナー画像を形成し、ローラ転写部材を用いて感光体上のトナーを転写材に転写させる方式を用いた画像形成装置に於いて、機械本体に、転写材の重さを入力する手段を 30 持ち、その重さによって転写電圧を変化させる手段を持つことを特徴とする画像形成装置。

【請求項8】 請求項7において、入力された重さによって、感光体及び現像スリーブ、転写ローラ、クリーニング部のマグローラ又はファーブラシ、レジストローラ、給紙ローラ、搬送ローラ、搬送ベルト、帯電ローラ及び定着器上下ローラ、ウェブローラの回転速度を変化させる手段を持つことを特徴とする画像形成装置。

【請求項9】 請求項7又は8において、転写部材にブレード及びブラシを用いて転写を行なうことを特徴とす 40る画像形成装置。

【請求項10】 請求項7において、その転写電流値を 制御することを特徴とする画像形成装置。

【請求項11】 電子写真方式を用いて、感光体表面上にトナー画像を形成し、ローラ転写部材を用いて感光体上のトナーを転写材に転写させる方式を用いた画像形成装置において、

転写を行なう前の段階で転写材の体積抵抗を測定する手 段を持ち、その抵抗値によって自動的に転写電流又は電 圧を可変する手段を持つことを特徴とする画像形成装 置。

【請求項12】 請求項11において、体積抵抗測定手段を導電性ローラを用いて行なうことを特徴とする画像形成装置。

【請求項13】 請求項11において、体積抵抗測定手 段を導電性フィルムを用いて行なうことを特徴とする画 像形成装置。

【請求項14】 請求項11において、体積抵抗測定手 段を導電性ブラシを用いて行なうことを特徴とする画像 形成装置。

【請求項15】 請求項12において、ローラが他の給紙の為のローラを兼ねることを特徴とする画像形成装置。

【請求項16】 電子写真方式を用いて感光体表面上に トナー画像を形成し、転写材にトナーを転写し画像形成 を行なう画像形成装置に於いて、

転写部分に転写を行なう転写ローラに電圧を印加する際の回路内に、可変抵抗を持つことを特徴とする画像形成装置。

20 【請求項17】 請求項16において、可変抵抗の抵抗 値が10° Ω以上の抵抗値であることを特徴とする画像 形成装置。

【請求項18】 請求項16において、可変抵抗の抵抗値が転写ローラの抵抗値の10倍以上であることを特徴とする画像形成装置。

【請求項19】 感光体上に潜像画像を形成する際にローラ帯電部材を用いて帯電を用ない、潜像を行なう構成に対して、帯電ローラに電圧を印加する際の回路内に、請求項16,17又は18の可変抵抗を持つことを特徴とする画像形成装置。

【請求項20】 電子写真方式を用いて感光体表面上にトナー画像を形成し、ローラ転写部材を用いて感光体上のトナーを転写材に転写させる方式を用いた画像形成装置に於いて、

転写ローラに電圧を印加する際の回路内に 10° Ω以上の抵抗値を持つ抵抗を持つことを特徴とする画像形成装置。

【請求項21】 請求項20において、転写ローラの抵抗値よりも10倍以上大きな抵抗値を持つ抵抗を持つことを特徴とする画像形成装置。

【請求項22】 請求項20又は21において、抵抗が 転写ローラの軸を兼ねることを特徴とする画像形成装 置。

【請求項23】 ローラ帯電を用いて潜像画像を形成する画像形成装置において、その帯電ローラ回路内に、請求項20,21又は22の抵抗を持つことを特徴とする画像形成装置。

【請求項24】 機体内方に多数のシートを収納しかつ 着脱自在に装着したシート収納装置を持ち、そのシート 50 収納装置内のシートを給紙し、そのシートが機体内を搬 3

送され機外に排出される、又は再度機内に収納される画 像形成装置において、

シート搬送するガイド上に、自動でガイドを清掃する手段を設けることを特徴とする画像形成装置。

【発明の詳細な説明】

[0001]

【産業上の利用分野】本発明は転写ローラ又はコロナ放電を用いて潜像形成又は転写を行なう画像形成装置に関するものである。

[0002]

【従来の技術】

〈従来例1〉従来、転写ローラを用いて転写を行なう画像形成装置においては、転写材の種類に応じた転写ローラの制御は行なっておらず、環境、耐久変化等による転写ローラの条件変化についてのみ転写ローラの制御を行なうよう構成されている。

【0003】(従来例2)また、転写ローラを用いて転写を行なう画像形成装置においては、転写材の種類に応じた転写条件の制御は行なわれておらず、環境、耐久等の変化により転写ローラの特性が大きく変化する為に、転写ローラの抵抗値変化の場合でも、一定の電流量を得る為に試験的にある電流を流し、その時の電圧値から転写ローラの抵抗値を計算し、ある一定の電流量を得る為に印加電圧をコントロールするという方法が用いられている。

【0004】また、ローラ転写方式を用いて転写を行なっている装置において、転写材に関しては、その転写材の種類、特性によって、転写条件が制御されておらず、転写材の種類としてそのサイズについてのみ自動、又は手動でサイズを検知し、転写電流の印加タイミングをコ 30ントロールするように構成されている。

【0005】〈従来例3〉また、耐電ローラ用いて潜像 形成を行なう画像形成装置に於いても環境又は耐久によ りそのローラの抵抗値変化が生じた場合には、その印加 電圧を変化させ、電流値を一定に制御する方法がとられ るような構成になっている。

【0006】〈従来例4〉また、画像形成装置において、そのガイドを自動清掃する手段は設けられておらず、ガイドの汚れに対しては、サービスマン又はユーザによる手動清掃が行なわれ、ガイドを自動清掃する方式 40を用いるような構成を取ったものはない。

[0007]

【発明が解決しようとする課題】しかしながら、上記従来例1では転写ローラ単体での制御しか行なわれておらず、転写材を含めた転写条件の変化については考えられていない為に、次のような欠点があった。

【0008】転写ローラを安定させて、制御を行なって も、実際には転写材の体積抵抗値の違いにより、転写条 件が大きく変化し、コピーされたものは転写条件が変化 することで、転写抜け等の転写不良が発生する場合があ 50

る。

【0009】また、上記従来例2では、転写ローラの抵抗値変化に対して計算上の電流値制御を行なっており、また転写材はそのサイズについての検知を行なって印加タイミングをコントロールしているだけなので次のような欠点があった。

【0010】転写材が実際に転写ローラと感光体の間に はさまった状態での抵抗値は転写ローラの計算上の電流 値制御を行なって得られた電流値と異なっている場合が あり、転写材の特性によって実際の転写時の電流量が変 化する。

【0011】その為に、計算上の電流値制御を行なって も、転写電流値が転写材の特性によって変化し、転写不 良が生じ必ずしも良い画像は得られない。

【0012】また、転写材の情報として、これまではそのサイズについてのみしか検知されていない為に、種類、特性による電圧値制御は行なわれておらず、計算上の電流値と実際の電流値が異なっていた。

[0013] また、上記従来例3では、帯電ローラの抵抗値変化に対して、その印加電圧を制御する方法がとられている為に次のような欠点があった。

【0014】耐久、環境により、その変化の大きな場合には印加電圧を制御している為に機械本体の総電流が不足するという問題があった。

【0015】また、電圧を制御することで電源に余裕を 持たせなければならず、変化を見込んだ電源の容量が必 要であった。

[0016] また、電圧を制御する為に大きな電圧を印加した場合に感光体や、分離部材等との間でリークを生こしたり、リークさせない為にはその制御範囲が限られてくる。以上のような問題があった。

【0017】また、上記従来例4では、ガイドを自動清掃する手段はなく又ガイドの汚れに対してもサービスマン又はユーザが手動で清掃を行なうようになっているため次のような欠点があった。

【0018】サービスマン又はユーザが清掃する為に、ガイド上の目に見える箇所又は手の届く箇所しか清掃されず手の届かない目に見えない箇所の汚れはどうすることもできなかった。

【0019】また、サービスマンが定期的に清掃すれば サービス時の時間がかかりサービスコストもアップす る。また、サービスマンもユーザもめんどうくさい為に その清掃を行なわず紙粉やホコリ、トナー粉塵がシート に付着し、シートが汚れる等の問題があった。

[0020]

【課題を解決するための手段及び作用】本発明は、上記 諸問題を解決するものであり、その解決手段は、前記各 請求項に記載のとおりである。そして、その作用は次の とおりである。

【0021】請求項1~6の手段によれば、実際のコピ

ーを行なう前に転写材を試し流しをして、転写材が転写 ローラと感光体との間にあるときに、転写ローラと転写 材と感光体の間の抵抗値を測定する手段を設けることに より、転写ローラと転写材の両方の変化を兼ね合わせた 制御を行なうことが可能となり、実際のコピー時にはよ り良い条件で転写ローラに常に安定した転写電流を与え ることが可能となり、転写抜け等の転写不良を防ぎ、常 に安定したより良い画像を得ることを可能とする。

【0022】請求項7~10の手段によれば、機械本体に転写材の重さを入力する手段を持ち、(1)入力され 10 た転写材の重さによって転写時の印加電圧を変化させる

(2) 入力された転写材の重さによって転写時の感光体、現像スリープ、クリーニング部のマグネットローラ、又はファープラシ、レジストローラ、給紙ローラ、搬送ローラ、搬送ベルト、帯電ローラ及び定着器上下ローラ、ウェブローラの回転速度を変化させる、上記

(1), (2)の手段を設けることにより、転写材の重さが変化しても、その際の転写電流量を一定に保つことが可能となり、常に安定した条件での転写条件(電流又は速度)で転写を行なうことができ、安定した良い画像 20 を得ることができる。

【0023】請求項11~15の手段によれば、転写を行なう前の段階で転写材の体積抵抗を測定する手段を持ち、その抵抗値によって自動で転写電圧又は電流を可変する手段を設けることにより、転写ローラの変化と、転写材の体積抵抗との両方を兼ね合わせた制御を行なうことが可能となり、実複写動作上での転写条件の安定化を行ない転写抜け等の転写不良を防ぎ、安定したより良い画像を得ることができる。

【0024】請求項16~19の手段によれば、転写口 30 ーラ又は帯電ローラに電圧を印加する回路上に可変抵抗を設け、また、その抵抗値を10° Ω以上又はローラの抵抗値の10倍以上の抵抗を設けることにより、耐久、環境によりローラの抵抗値が変化した場合においても、入力電圧を変化させることなく、可変抵抗の値を変化させることで回路全体での総抵抗値は変化させずに、一定の電流量を得ることができる。

[0025] 又、その抵抗値を10° Ω以上又はローラの抵抗値の10倍以上の抵抗とすることでローラの抵抗値変化に依存する率が非常に小さくなり、可変抵抗の抵 40 抗値に大きく依存する為に、ローラ抵抗が大きく変化した場合にも可変抵抗の抵抗値も大きく変化させることなく容易に制御することが可能となる。

[0026] その為に入力電圧を制御することなく常に 一定の電圧を入力することで安定した一定の電流値を得 ることができる。

【0027】請求項20~23の手段によれば、転写ローラに電圧を印加する際の回路上に転写ローラの抵抗よりも十分に大きな抵抗値を持つ抵抗を設け、実際には、転写ローラの抵抗値よりも、1~5ケタ程度大きい抵抗 50

を設けることにより、環境、耐久等による転写ローラの 抵抗値の変化が生じても回路上での総合の抵抗値は常に 一定に保たれ、転写ローラの抵抗値変化に依存すること なく、一定電圧を印加することで、安定した一定の転写 電流を得ることを可能とする。

【0028】請求項24の手段によれば、シートを搬送するガイド上に自動でガイドを清掃する手段を設けることにより、定期的に搬送ガイドを自動清掃し、ガイド上に付着した紙粉やホコリ、トナー粉塵を取り除くことを可能とし、また、サービスマンやユーザーによる定期的な清掃を不要とする。

[0029]

【実施例】請求項1乃至6の実施例を図1乃至4について説明する。

 $[0\ 0\ 3\ 0]$ 図1ないし図2は本発明の第1の実施例を示し、図1は本発明の特徴の1つを最も良く表わす。

【0031】図1において、1は転写ローラ、2は感光ドラム等の感光体、3は転写材、4は電源、5は電流計、6は電圧計である。

[0032] 図2に示すフローチャートに従って、コピー動作OK状態から、コピーボタンを押しコピーを開始する。

【0033】その際に、いきなりコピー動作を行なうのではなく、先ず、転写材(例えば紙)を一枚試し流しをする。その試し流しを行なった転写材が転写ローラと感光体との間にはさまっている状態のとき、電源4から試験電流(例えば-1mA)を印加し、そのときの転写ローラ、転写材、感光体に流れる電圧を測定し、その印加電流と、印加電圧の関係から全ての抵抗値を計算する。

 $[0\ 0\ 3\ 4]$ その場合に電流 (I) 、電圧 (V) 、抵抗 (R) の関係はオームの法則 $(V=I\ R)$ から容易に求めることができる。

【0035】そこで求めた抵抗値から、逆算して、本来 最適な転写を行なう為に必要な転写電流(例えば-20 mA)を得る為に必要な印加電圧が決定される。

[0036] ここで最適な印加電圧を決定することができたらに、次に、実際のコピー動作において今決定した電圧を印加する。

【0037】この方法で、転写材をコピー前に試し流しし、転写ローラと、転写材、感光体の全ての抵抗値で、転写電圧を制御することで、あらゆる条件の変化に対して常に安定した転写電流を与えることが可能となり最適な転写を行ない、転写抜け等の転写不良を防ぐことが可能となる。

【0038】〈実施例2〉図3は本発明の第2の実施例を示し、同図に於いて、図1と同一部材には同一符号を付し、7は給紙ローラ、8は搬送ローラ、9は搬送ガイド、10は反転ガイド、11は定着器、12は第1フラッパ、13は第2フラッパ、14は搬送ベルト、15は除電針、16は両面多重再給紙ユニット、17は給紙ト

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レイである。

【0039】本実施例によれば、実施例1で試し流しし た転写材を排出せずに、第1フラッパ12を用いて両 面、多重、再給紙ユニット16に搬送し、最後又はコピ 一中のいずれかの場合に、その紙を再利用するというも のである。

【0040】その他の具体的な抵抗の測定方法は実施例 1と同様である。この方法を用いれば転写材の試し流し を行なった場合でも、試し流しを行なった転写材は無駄 に排出されることなく、再度利用される為に有効利用が 10 出来るという効果がある。

【0041】〈実施例3〉実施例1ないし2において、 その制御を行なうタイミングを毎コピー時ではなく例え ば、朝一で全カセットをやって各々のカセットを選んだ 際に、それぞれの理想電圧を印加するという方法を用い ても良い。

[0042] この場合には、例えば1000枚ごとに行 なうとか、それぞれのカセットを選んだ最初のときだけ 行なう等という方法でも良い。

【0043】〈実施例4〉実施例1ないし2ないし3に 20 おいて、その制御を試験電流を流し、電流値を一定にす る方法で制御しているが同様の方法を用いて電圧で制御 を行なう方法を用いても良い。

【0044】〈実施例5〉図4は本発明の第5の実施例 を示し、同図に於いて18は第3フラッパ,19は搬送 ガイドである。

【0045】本実施例によれば、実施例2で試し流しを した転写材を両面、多重、再給紙ユニットに搬送する際 に、搬送ベルトと定着器との間に第3フラッパ、18を 設けて、定着器内を通さずに、フラッパによりその転写 30 材を搬送し、両面多重再給紙ユニットに収納することを 可能とする。

【0046】この方法を用いることにより、試し流しし た転写材を定着器を通さずに再利用する為にその転写材 の条件も大きく変わらず、より良い状態での再利用を可 能にするという効果がある。

【0047】次に請求項7乃至10の実施例を図5乃至 10について説明する。

【0048】〈実施例6〉図5乃至図7は本発明の実施 例6を示し、図5は本発明の特徴の1つを最もよく表わ 40 す図面であり、同図に於いて101は重さ切り換えパネ ルである。

【0049】図6において、102は重さ切り換えダイ ヤル、103は給紙力セット、104は機械本体、10 5は手差し部、106はジャム処理扉、107は排紙ガ イド、108は操作部、109は圧板、110はベデイ スタルである。

【0050】上記構成において給紙カセット103に転 写材(例えば普通紙)をセットした際に、その転写材の 重さを入力するダイヤル102とパネル101によって 50 を一定にするのではなく、電圧を一定にする場合には、

転写材の重さを入力する。

[0051] その際に図6に示すように、カセット横部 にパネルを設け、転写材を変更する度にその条件を変更

[0052] そして、ダイヤルによってセットした転写 材の重さによって図7に示すように入力する電圧を制御 する。

[0053] 例えば、セットされた転写材が60g/m ² 以下であれば、通常の最適転写電流(例えば-30μ A) を得る為に、通常印加する電圧(例えば-4KV) に対して-0.5KV多く印加し、トータルで-4.5 KV印加すると、その転写材を通紙した時に最適な転写 電流-30μAに近い値を得ることが可能となるもので ある。同様に他の重さの転写材に対しても電圧を変える ものとする。

【0054】この方法を用いて転写材の重さに対して印 加電圧を変更することで、転写材の重さが異なった場合 でも、ダイヤルセットすることで最適な転写電流を得る ことができるという効果がある。

【0055】〈実施例7〉図8ないし図9は第7の実施 例を示し、図8に於いて111は感光ドラム等の感光 体、112は転写ローラ、113は除電針、114はマ グネットローラ又はファープラシ、115はクリーニン グブレード、116は帯電ローラ、117は現像スリー ブ、118は搬送ガイド、119はレジストローラ及び 搬送ローラ、120は給紙ローラ、121はピックアッ プローラ、122はカセットトレイ、123は転写材、 124は搬送ベルト、125は加圧ローラ、126は定 着ローラ、127はウェブローラ、128は定着入口ガ イドである。

【0056】同図に於いて、実施例6と同様に転写材の 条件をセットした際に、図9に示すように例えば、転写 材が60~80g/m'の場合にはその感光体の回転速 度が120mm/secとなるようにメインモータの回 転速度を決定する。それにともない、転写ローラ12 2、マグネットローラ又はファープラシ114、帯電口 ーラ116、現像スリープ117、レジストローラ及び 搬送ローラ119、給紙ローラ120、ピックアップロ ーラ121、搬送ベルト124、加圧ローラ125、定 着ローラ126、ウェブローラ127の回転速度も変化 し速度を変化させることで転写条件を一定にすることが

【0057】またこの場合には定着器の速度も変化し、 転写材の重さに依存する為にその定着性に対しても有利 である。

【0058】〈実施例8〉図10は第8の実施例を示す 図である。

【0059】同図に於いて、実施例6と同様に転写材の 重さを入力後に、その転写条件を実施例6のように電流 9

最適電圧(例えば-4KV)を得る為に通常流す電流 $(-30\mu A)$ に対し $-15\mu A$ 多く流し、トータルで $-45\mu A$ 流せば、その転写材を通紙した時に最適な転 写電圧-4KVを得ることが可能となり、同様に他の重 -さの転写材に対しても電流値を制御することで同様の効 果が得られる。

【0060】〈実施例9〉実施例6乃至8において転写ローラを用いた系においてのみでなく、ローラの代わりに、ブレード、ブラシを用いて転写を行なう系においてもやはり転写材の影響を受け易い為に同様の方法を用い 10 て制御することで同様に安定した良い条件での転写を行なうことができる。

【0061】〈実施例10〉実施例6乃至9においてその転写材の重さを入力する部分を操作部上に設けたり、カセット内部に設けたり、切り換えをダイヤルではなく、ボタン式にする等の方法もある。

【0062】また転写材の切り換え条件を細かく設定するとより精度の良い制御を行なうことが可能となる。

【0063】次に請求項11乃至15の実施例を図11 乃至14について説明する。

【0064】〈実施例11〉図11ないし図12は本発明の第11の実施例を示し、図11は本発明の特徴の1つを最もよく表わす図面であり、同図に於いて201、203は体積抵抗測定用ローラ回転軸、201、204は体積抵抗測定用ローラ表面導電性ゴム層(例えばEPDM等)、205は電源、206は電流計、207は電圧計、208はCPU(処理/計算部)、209は転写材であり、又、図12に於いて、210はピックアップローラ、211、212は給紙ローラ、213は縦パス搬送ガイドである。

【0065】上記構成に於いて、転写材209がピックアップローラ210、給紙ローラ211,212によって給紙され、縦パスガイド213をへて、搬送され、体積抵抗測定用ローラ回転軸201,203と同表面導電性ゴム層202,204とで構成される体積抵抗測定用ローラ(以下、これら201,202,及び203,204を組として体積抵抗測定用ローラ対とする。)のローラ対部にかかり、ローラ対に転写材がはさまった状態になると、電源205からテスト電流が体積抵抗測定用ローラ対に流される。このように転写材が体積抵抗測定用ローラ対にはさまった状態で同ローラ対に電流を流せば、転写材が抵抗となり流れる電流、電圧は変化する。それを電流計206、電圧計207で測定し、それぞれの測定値をCPU(処理/計算部)208に信号として送る。

【0066】このとき、転写材が体積抵抗測定用ローラ対にはさまっていない、つまり、何も抵抗がない状態をリファレンスとして測定しておいて、その後に、転写材がはさまった状態で同様に測定を行なえば転写材の抵抗のみを容易に知ることが可能となる。

 $[0\ 0\ 6\ 7]$ 転写材の体積抵抗値を知ったCPUは、本来目標である転写ローラと感光体との間に流れるべき理想的電流値(例えば $-2\ 0\ \mu$ A)を流す為には、転写材の抵抗値から逆算して転写ローラに流すべき電流値(又は電圧値)を決定することが可能となる。

【0068】このように転写材の体積抵抗を測定し、自動で転写電流(又は電圧)を可変にすることで、転写材の変化及び転写材の環境、他条件変化に応じて常により良い条件での転写を行なうことが可能となる。

【0069】〈実施例12〉実施例12に於いては説明に用いる為の図はないが、実施例11に於いて、転写材の体積抵抗値を測定しCPUに送るが、転写ローラと感光体との間の理想的電流値でではなくその間の電圧値を制御する。

【0070】転写ローラと感光体との間に流れるべき理想的電圧(例えば-5KV)を得る為に実施例11に示すような制御を行なう。

[0071] 〈実施例13〉図13は第13の実施例を示し、同図に於いて214は感光体、215は転写入口ガイド、216は転写ローラ軸、217は転写ローラ表面導電性ゴム層(例えばEPDM等)(以下216,217を合わせて転写ローラとする)である。

[0072] 実施例11で説明した体積抵抗測定用ローラ対が転写入口ガイド付近にあり、同ローラ対はレジストローラも兼ねることが可能となる。また本実施例においては転写ローラについても、そのローラと感光体の間の電流又は電圧又は抵抗を実際に測定し、その測定値と、転写材の体積抵抗値との両方から、実際に転写ローラに流す理想電流値(又は電圧値)を決定することが可能となる。

[0073] 〈実施例14〉図14は第14の実施例を示し同図に於いて218は搬送ガイド板、219,22 0は体積抵抗測定用導電性フィルムである。

【0074】これまでの実施例で説明した体積抵抗測定 用ローラ対の代わりに同フィルム(例えばPc)を用い て転写材の体積抵抗を測定する。

[0075] 〈実施例15〉実施例14に示す体積抵抗 測定用導電性フィルムの代わりに同プラシ(例えばP c)を用いて転写材の体積抵抗を測定する。

【0076】次に請求項16乃至19の実施例を図1 5.16について説明する。

[0077] 〈実施例16〉図15は本発明の第15の 実施例を示し、図15は本発明の特徴の1つを最もよく 表わす図面であり、同図に於いて301は転写ローラ、 302は感光体、303は可変抵抗、304は電流計、 305は電圧計、306は電源である。

[0078] 上記構成に於いて、転写ローラに試験電流 (例えば -1μ A) を流し、その際の電圧値を (-0. 5 K V) を電圧計 3 0 5 で読み取り、転写ローラ 3 0 1 の抵抗値を測定する。その際の可変抵抗 3 0 3 の抵抗値

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は、ある基準値になるように設定しておく。

【0079】そこで試験電流値と、電圧値からローラの抵抗値を求めることができ、その得られた抵抗値に対して、本来印加する電圧(例えば $-5\,\mathrm{KV}$)を印加した際に、得たい電流値(例えば $-20\,\mu\mathrm{A}$)を得る為には回路全体の抵抗値を何 Ω すればよいのかは $\mathrm{V}=\mathrm{I}\,\mathrm{R}$ の計算式から容易に求めることができる。

【0080】また、回路全体の抵抗値が求まれば、先程 求めたローラの抵抗値からR=R1+R1(R:回路全 体の抵抗値、R1:ローラの抵抗値、R1:可変抵抗の 10 抵抗値)の計算式を用いて容易に求めることができる。

【0081】そこで得られた抵抗値に可変抵抗を設定することで、一定の入力電圧の印加により、最適な転写電流を得ることが可能となり、安定した転写を得なうことができる。

【0082】この可変抵抗の抵抗値を決定するシーケンスとしては朝一メインスイッチON時や、500枚ごとといった定期的なシーケンスで行なうと良い。

【0083】〈実施例17〉実施例17に於いては説明 に用いる為の図として実施例16の図と同様とする。

【0084】本実施例においては実施例16と同様の構成をとり、実施例16に於いてその可変抵抗の抵抗値を 10° Ω以上の抵抗とする。

【0085】このことで転写ローラの抵抗値に対して、可変抵抗の抵抗値が十分に大きな場合にはその回路全体の抵抗値は抵抗値のより大きな可変抵抗に依存し、転写ローラの抵抗値変化はほとんど影響しなくなる。その為ローラの抵抗値変化が大きな場合でも、その可変抵抗はほとんど変化することなく非常に狭い範囲での制御を行なうことができ、可変抵抗の抵抗値変化の幅を狭くでき 30るという効果がある。

〈実施例18〉本実施例においては、基本構成は実施例16, 17 と同様であるが可変抵抗の抵抗値を転写ローラの初期抵抗の抵抗値(例えば 10^4 Ω)に対して、その抵抗値の10 倍以上の抵抗(例えば 10^4 Ω 以上)の可変抵抗を用いるものとする。

【0086】このことで例えば転写ローラに用いられた抵抗の抵抗値が10° Ωのように非常に小さく効率の良いローラであっても、そのローラの抵抗値変化に依存せず、なおかつその効率の良さもおとさないような可変抵 40 抗を用いることでロスを少なくし、常に一定の入力電圧で安定した転写電流を得ることが可能となりより良い、より安定な画像を得ることが可能となる。

【0087】〈実施例19〉図16は第19の実施例を 示し、同図に於いて307は帯電ローラである。

【0088】基本構成、制御については実施例16乃至 18と同様であり、そのローラが転写ローラではなく、 帯電ローラの場合にもおなじく同様の構成制御を行なう ことが可能となり帯電ローラの回路上に可変抵抗値を持 ち同様の制御を行なうことで帯電ローラの抵抗値変化に 50

対しても、一定な安定した電流を得ることが可能となり、安定した潜像画像を形成できるという効果がある。 [0089]次に請求項20乃至23の実施例を図17、18について説明する。

[0090] 〈実施例20〉図17は本発明の第20の 実施例を示し、図17は本発明の特徴の1つを最もよく 表わす図面であり、同図に於いて、401は転写ロー ラ、402は感光体、403は抵抗、404は電源、4 05は電圧計、406は電流計である。

10 【0091】上記構成において、転写材が転写ローラ401と感光体402の間にはさまった時に電源404から電流(例えば-20μA)を印加するが、この回路の構成上、転写ローラ401~感光体402の間は仮想的には1つの抵抗であると見なすことができ、本抵抗に対して、その抵抗値よりも10'~10'程度大きい抵抗3を回路内に設けることで本回路内の総抵抗はR=R、~、+R、(R、~、は転写ローラ~感光体、R、は抵抗)となり、R、の抵抗がR、~、に比べて、十分に大きな抵抗(10'~10'倍程度)であれば回路内の総20抵抗はR、に依存する。

【0092】その為耐久、環境によって転写ローラの抵抗値が大きく変化した場合にでも、回路上の抵抗は転写ローラの変化に依存することなく回路上の別の抵抗に依存する為、常に一定の電圧の印加により、入力電圧を制御することなく安定した定電流制御を行なうことが可能となり、安定したより良い条件での転写を行なうことができる。

【0093】〈実施例21〉実施例21に於いては説明 に用いる為の図として実施例20の図と同様であるとす

[0094] 本実施例においては実施例20と同様の構成をとり、実施例20に於いて、抵抗値を転写ローラの初期抵抗値(例えば 10° Ω)に対してその抵抗値よりも10倍以上の抵抗(例えば 10° Ω)を抵抗403に用いるものとする。

【0095】このことで、例えば転写ローラに用いられた抵抗値が10°Ωのように非常に小さく効率の良いローラであった場合にも、その抵抗値の変化に依存せず、なおかつその効率の良さもおとさないような抵抗を用いることで常に一定の入力電圧で安定した転写電流を得ることが可能となり、より良い、安定な画像を得ることが可能となる。

[0096] 〈実施例22〉図18は第22の実施例を示し、同図に於いて407は芯金、408は導電ゴム層、409は表面コート層である。

[0097] 実施例20,21で説明したように転写ローラを含む回路内に転写ローラの抵抗値よりも大きな抵抗を回路内に設けるが、ここでいう転写ローラの耐久、環境による抵抗値変化は主に導電ゴム層408(例えばEPDM)によるものであり、芯金407等は非常に抵

抗値の小さなものである。そこで回路内の転写ローラの 抵抗値よりも大きな3抵抗を転写ローラの芯金と併用す ることで回路上の無駄なスペースを省略することが可能 となる。

【0098】つまり転写ローラの芯金407を高抵抗 (実施例1で100 Ω 以上、実施例21で転写ローラよりも10倍以上大きな抵抗)化することで、実施例20, 21と同様の効果を得ることが可能となる。

【0099】〈実施例23〉実施例23に於いては実施例20乃至21で用いた構成をローラ帯電を用いて潜像 10を行なう場合の帯電ローラの回路上に同様の抵抗を用いてもよい。

【0100】基本構成は実施例20乃至22と同様であり帯電ローラに同様の構成を持つことで帯電ローラの抵抗値変化に対しても、制御を用いることなく、一定な安定した電流を得ることが可能となり、安定した潜像画像を形成できる効果がある。

【0101】次に請求項24の実施例を図19乃至26について説明する。

【0102】〈実施例24〉図19ないし図21は本発 20 明の第24の実施例を示し、図19に於いて501は駆動用ワイヤ巻き取りプーリ、502は第1プーリ、503は第2プーリ、504はワイヤ、505は清掃器具、506は清掃パッド、507はモータ、508は清掃部材収納部、509は搬送ガイドである。また図20、図21に於いても同様である。

【0103】上記構成に於いて、図20に示すとおり通常清掃器具505とそれと一体構成となっている清掃パッド506(以後両者を合わせて清掃部という)は搬送ガイド509の端部の収納部508に収納されており、ある一定間隔(又は一定シーケンス)時に図21に示すようにモータ507を可動させ、駆動用ワイヤ巻き取りプーリ501を回軸させワイヤ504を巻き取る、又は引き出すことによって清掃部は搬送ステー上を動き清掃パッド506によって搬送ステー上の紙粉、ホコリ、トナー粉塵等が除去され、搬送ガイド上は常時きれいな状態になる。

【0104】またこの時に、第1プーリ502から清掃部と、第2プーリ503から清掃部のワイヤは搬送ガイド端部をこするようにプーリ501,502の位置を決40める必要があり(プーリの下部がガイドより下側に来る)これは、清掃部収納時にシートが搬送ガイド上を通過するがその時に、シートがワイヤに引っかからないようにワイヤはガイド上にはりつくように設置されており、これにより、シートの通過を防げないようにされている。これは他にもガイドにワイヤの太さと同様の溝を作る等の方法を用いても良い。

【0105】以上説明したような方法を用いて、搬送ガイド上を清掃することによってガイド上の汚れを取り除き、シート通過時のシートの汚れを防ぐことが可能とな 50

る。

【0106】〈実施例25〉図22ないし図23は本発明の第25の実施例を示し、図22及び図23に於いてその基本構成は実施例24と同様である。

[0107] 上記構成に於いて、清掃器具505の両面に清掃パッド506を設けてなおかつ、清掃部材を搬送ガイドと同じもしくはそれよりも若干大きくすることで、実施例24と同様の操作を行なうことで搬送ガイドの両面を清掃することが可能となる。

[0108] その為に更に清掃効率は良くなり、より大きな効果が得られる。

[0109] 〈実施例26〉図24ないし図26は本発明の第26の実施例を示し、図24乃至図26に於いて、510は清掃用粘着テープである。基本構成は実施例24ないし実施例25と同様であるが、上記構成に於いて、清掃部を清掃器具とパッドではなく、清掃器具をローラタイプにし、その表面に粘着テープを取り付け、ローラの回転により粘着テープに汚れを付着させるように構成されている。また、この方法においても、その清掃方法は実施例24、25と同様である。このように清掃部に粘着テープを用いて清掃することで、一度付着とた汚れを再度付着させないようにし、又、粘着テープを用いることで強力な汚れに対しても強い清掃力を得ることが可能となる。

[0110]〈実施例27〉実施例24及び実施例25において、その清掃パッドに、研摩剤(SiC等)を含んだ清掃パッドとしても良い。この場合、研摩剤を含んだパッドを用いることで更にその清掃能力は上がり、強力な汚れに対しても強い清掃力を得ることが可能となる。

[0111]

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【発明の効果】以上説明したように、請求項1乃至6の 発明によれば、転写ローラを用いて、転写を行なう電子 写真装置において、実際のコピーを行なう前に転写材を 試し流しをして、転写材が転写ローラと感光体との間に あるときに、転写ローラと転写材と感光体の間の抵抗値 を測定する手段を設けることにより、転写ローラに常に 安定した転写電流を与えることが可能となり、転写ロー ラと転写材の両方の変化を兼ね合わせた制御を行なうこ とが可能となり、実際のコピー時には転写抜け等の転写 不良を防ぎ、常に安定したより良い画像を得ることがで きるという効果がある。また請求項7乃至10の発明に よれば、機械本体に転写材の重さを入力する手段を持 ち、入力された転写材の重さによって転写時の印加電圧 を変化させる、又は、入力された転写材の重さによって 転写時の感光体、現像スリープ、クリーニング部のマグ ネットローラ、及びファープラシ、レジストローラ、給 紙ローラ、搬送ローラ、搬送ベルト、帯電ローラ及び定 着器上下ローラ、ウェブローラの回転速度を変化させる ことにより、転写材の重さが変化しても、転写電流量を 一定にコントロールすることが可能となり、常に安定し た良い条件での転写を行なうことができ、安定した良い 画像を得ることができるという効果がある。

【0112】また請求項11乃至15の発明によれば、 転写ローラを用いて転写を行なう電子写真装置の転写前 にて転写材の体積抵抗を測定する手段を持ち、その抵抗 値により自動で転写電圧又は転写電流を可変する手段を 設けることにより、転写材の体積抵抗の違いを考慮した うえでの転写電圧又は電流の制御を行なうことが可能と なり、実複写動作上での転写条件の安定化をはかり、転 10 写抜け等の転写不良を防ぎ、安定したより良い画像を得 ることができる効果がある。

【0113】また請求項16乃至19の発明によれば、 転写ローラ又は帯電ローラに電圧を印加する回路上に可 変抵抗を設け、また、その抵抗値を10°Ω以上又はロ ーラの抵抗値の10倍以上の抵抗を設けることにより、 耐久、環境によりローラの抵抗値が変化した場合におい ても、入力電圧を変化することなく、可変抵抗の抵抗値 を変化させることで回路全体の総抵抗値を変化させるこ となく一定の電流量を得ることができる。

【0114】又、その抵抗値を10°Ω以上又はローラ の抵抗値の10倍以上の抵抗とすることでローラの抵抗 値変化に依存する率が非常に小さくなり、可変抵抗の抵 抗値に大きく依存する為に、ローラ抵抗が大きく変化し た場合にも可変抵抗の抵抗値も大きく変化させることな く容易に制御することが可能となる。その為に、転写/ 帯電のいずれにおいても、その入力電圧変化(制御)す ることなく一定の入力電圧で安定した一定の電流値を得 ることができるようになり、ついては、安定した転写、 安定した潜像形成を行なうことが可能となるという効果 30

【0115】また請求項20乃至23の発明によれば、 転写ローラを用いて転写を行なう電子写真装置の、転写 ローラに電圧を印加する際の回路上に転写ローラの抵抗 値よりも十分大きな抵抗値を持つ抵抗を設け、実際に は、転写ローラの抵抗値よりも、1~5ケタ程度大きい 抵抗を設けることにより、環境、耐久等による転写ロー ラの抵抗値の変化が生じた場合でも回路上での総合の抵 抗値は変化することなく常に一定に保たれ、転写ローラ の抵抗値変化に依存することなく、一定電圧を印加する 40 ことで、常に安定した一定の電流を得ることができ、つ いては一定な印加電圧によりより良い条件でのより安定 な定電流制御を行なうことができるという効果がある。

【0116】また請求項24の発明によれば、シートを 搬送するガイド上に自動でガイドを清掃する手段を設け ることにより、定期的に搬送ガイドを自動清掃し、ガイ ド上に付着した紙粉やホコリ、トナー粉塵を取り除くこ とが可能となり、シート搬送時に紙粉やホコリ、トナー 粉塵がシートに付着しシートを汚すことを防止できる。 また、サービスマンやユーザによる定期的な清掃を必要 50

としなくなり、サービス時の時間を短縮でき、ユーザに 清掃を行なわせるという負担をなくすことができるとい う効果がある。

【図面の簡単な説明】

【図1】本発明を実施した第1の実施例を示す画像形成 装置における転写ローラ近傍の断面図。

【図2】本発明を実施した第1の実施例を示す画像形成 装置におけるフローチャート。

【図3】本発明を実施した第2の実施例を示す複写機の 断面図。

【図4】本発明を実施した第5の実施例を示す複写機の 断面図。

[図5] 本発明を実施した紙の重さを入力するダイヤル の平面図。

【図6】本発明を実施した第6の実施例の本体を表わす 斜視図。

【図7】本発明を実施した第6の実施例の転写材の重さ による転写電圧値の変化量を表わすグラフ。

【図8】本発明を実施した第7の実施例の本体の内部を 20 表わす断面図。

【図9】本発明を実施した第7の実施例の転写材の重さ による感光体の回転速度を表わすグラフ。

【図10】本発明を実施した第8の実施例の転写材の重 さによる転写電流値の変化量を表わすグラフ。

【図11】本発明の第11の実施例を実施した転写材の 体積抵抗を測定する際の測定部材近傍を表わす断面図。

【図12】第11の実施例を実施した給紙部から縦パス にかけての断面図。

【図13】第13の実施例を実施したレジストローラ前 から転写部にかけての断面図及び測定部材近傍の回路

【図14】第14の実施例を実施した抵抗測定部材近傍 を表わす断面図。

【図15】本発明を実施した第16の実施例を示す回路

【図16】本発明を実施した第19の実施例を示す回路 図。

【図17】本発明を実施した第20の実施例を示す回路

【図18】本発明を実施した第22の実施例を示す転写 ローラの断面図。

【図19】本発明を実施した実施例24における、清掃 機構を表わすガイド上の斜視図。

【図20】本発明を実施した実施例24における、清掃 機構を表わす清掃部材収納時のガイド付近の断面図。

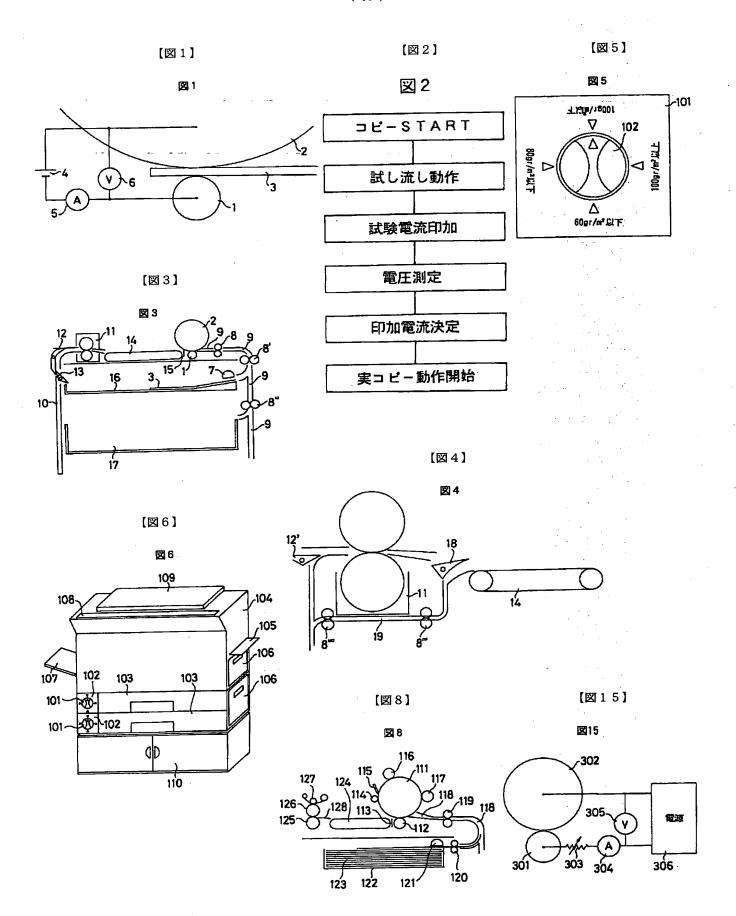
【図21】本発明を実施した実施例24における、清掃 機構を表わす清掃時のガイド付近の断面図。

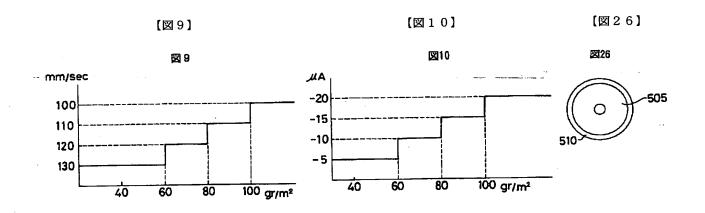
【図22】本発明を実施した実施例25における、清掃 機構を表わす清掃部材収納時のガイド付近の断面図。

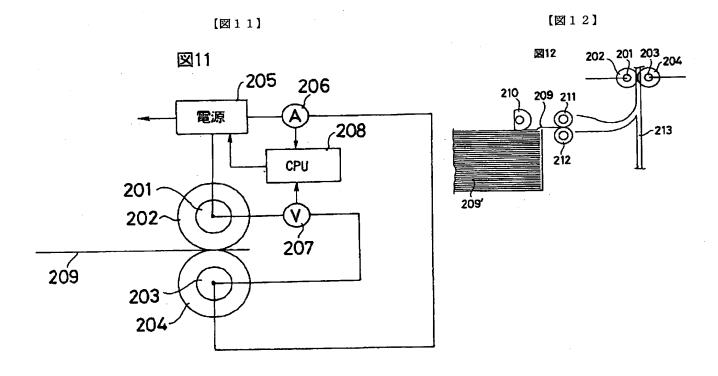
【図23】本発明を実施した実施例25における、清掃

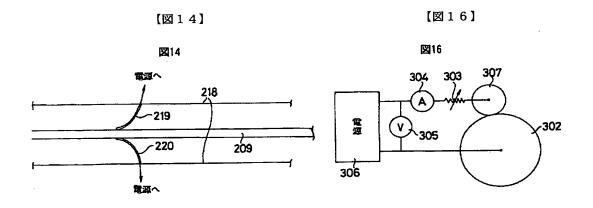
18

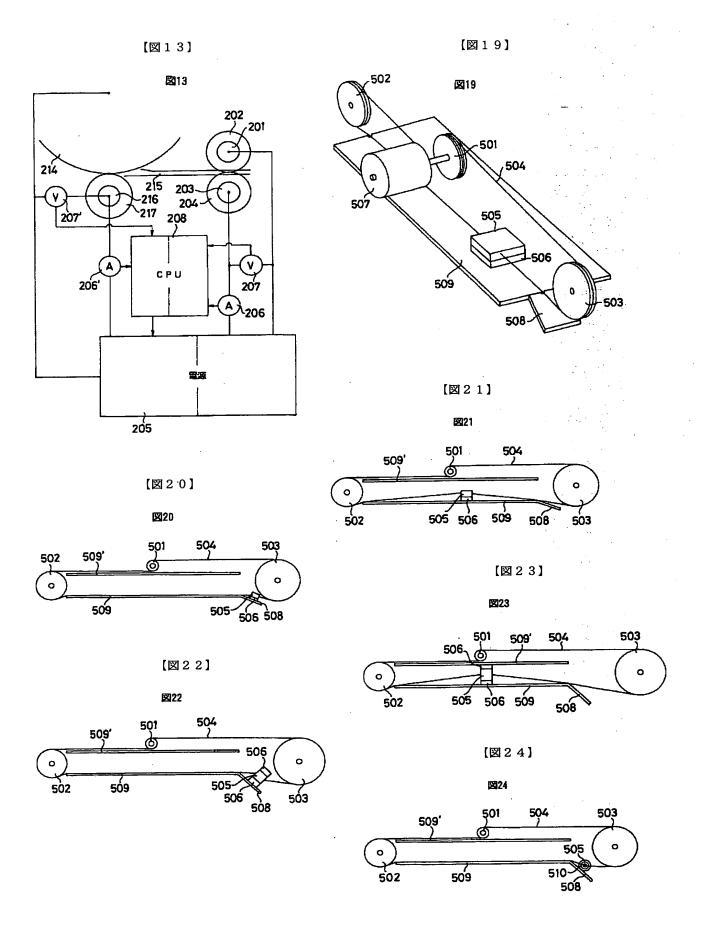
17	•		18				
機構を表わす清掃時のガイド付近の	所面図。		1 2 4…搬送ベルト	125加圧ローラ			
【図24】本発明を実施した実施例26における、清掃			1 2 6 …定着ローラ	127ウェブロー			
機構を表わす清掃部材収納時のガイ			ラ				
【図25】本発明を実施した実施例			1 2 8…定着入口ガイド				
機構を表わす清掃時のガイド付近の			201,203…体積抵抗測定用ローラ回転軸				
【図26】本発明を実施した実施例			202,204…体積抵抗測定用ローラ表面導電性ゴム				
ーラの断面図である。		層					
【符号の説明】			205…電源	206…電流計			
1…転写ローラ	2…感光体		2 0 7 …電圧計	208CPU			
3…転写材	4…電源	10	(処理/計算部)				
5…電流計	6 …電圧計		2 0 9 …転写材	210…ピックア			
7…給紙ローラ	8…搬送ローラ		ップローラ				
7… _{和祝ロ} ーフ 9…搬送ガイド	10…反転ガイド		211,212…給紙ローラ	2 1 3 …縦パス搬			
9…放送ガイト 11…定着器	12…第1フラッ		送ガイド				
	12 331777		2 1 4 …感光体	2 1 5 …転写入口			
パ	14…搬送ベルト		ガイド				
13…第2フラッパ	16…両面、多		2 1 6 …転写ローラ軸	217転写ローラ			
15…除電針	10 阿風(多		表面導電性ゴム層	,			
重、再給紙ユニット	18…第3フラッ		218…搬送ガイド板				
17…給紙トレイ	10 35 3 7 7 7	20	219, 220…体積抵抗測	定用導電性フィルム			
/*	101…重さ切り	20	実線…電気回路(電流/電圧)				
19…搬送ガイド	101 = 2099		実線矢印・・・電気測定又は数値				
換えパネル	103…給紙力セ		301…転写ローラ	302…感光体			
102…重さ切り換えダイヤル	103 WARAN C		303…可変抵抗	3 0 4…電流計			
ット	105…手指し部		305…電圧計	3 0 6 …電源			
104…機械本体	105…手指し品		307…帯電ローラ	401…転写口一			
106…ジャム処理扉	107…投机刀门		ラ				
F	100 55		~ 4 0 2 …感光体	403…抵抗			
108…操作部	109…圧板		404…電源	405…電圧計			
110…ペデイスタル	111…感光体	30		4 0 7 … 芯金			
112…転写ローラ	113…除電針	30	408…導電ゴム層	409…表面コー			
114…マグネットローラ又はファ			ト層				
115…クリーニングプレード	116…帯電ロー		501…駆動用ワイヤ巻き取	nプーII			
ラ	An		501…配動用ライトをごね 502…プーリ1	503…プーリ2			
117…現像スリーブ	118…搬送ガイ		502·**ワー り 1 504·・・ワイヤ	5 0 5 …清掃器具			
K			50 4…沙り マーラー マーラー ちゅうしゅう ちゅうしゅう かんしゅう かんしゅう かんしゅう かんしゅう かんしゅう かんしゅう かんしゅう かんしゅう かんしゅう しゅうしゅう しゅう	507…モータ			
119…レジストローラ及び搬送口			508…清掃部材収納部	5 0 9 …搬送ガイ			
120…給紙ローラ	121…ピックア		Hather that the little of C	000 1/102274 1			
ップローラ	100 +24		r 5 1 0 …清掃用粘着テープ				
122…カセットトレイ	123…転写材		510…俏冊用和看り。ノ				
[図7]			【図17】	[図18]			
			ATR 1.7	⊠18			
図7 KV			図17				
			405	100			
-2.0		ļ		409			
-1.5	置源	}	402	408			
-1.0	L		403 401	407			
-0.5	40	14	406				



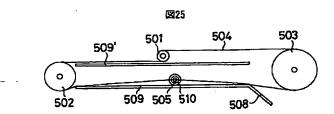








[図25]



フロントページの続き

(51) Int. Cl. ⁵
G 0 3 G 21/00

識別記号 111 庁内整理番号

FΙ

技術表示箇所

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CLAIMS

[Claim(s)]

[Claim 1] In the image formation equipment using the method which a toner image is formed [method] on a photo conductor front face using an electrophotography method, and makes imprint material imprint the toner on a photo conductor using a roller transfer member Image formation equipment characterized by having the means which tries and carries out the sink of the imprint material before real copy actuation initiation, and having a means to measure the current, electrical potential difference, or volume resistivity between imprint roller - imprint material - a photo conductor in the condition that imprint material is caught between the imprint roller and the photo conductor in that case.

[Claim 2] Image formation equipment characterized by having a means to control an imprint current in claim 1 based on the measured current, electrical potential difference, or resistance.

[Claim 3] Image formation equipment characterized by having a means to control an imprint electrical potential difference by the measured current, electrical potential difference, or resistance in claim 1. [Claim 4] Image formation equipment characterized by performing timing which operates 1 a certain whole regularity in claim 1 at the time of every number, medium tray selection, or the ** main switch ON at the time of ** copy actuation.

[Claim 5] Image formation equipment characterized by saving primarily the imprint material which tried by actuation and performed the sink in claim 1 in a body, and using again at the time of a copy. [Claim 6] Image formation equipment characterized by saving imprint material in a body in claim 5

temporarily at the time of actuation, without letting a fixing assembly pass.

[Claim 7] Image formation equipment characterized by forming a toner image on a photo conductor front face using an electrophotography method, having a means to input the weight of imprint material into the body of a machine, in the image formation equipment using the method which makes imprint material imprint the toner on a photo conductor using a roller transfer member, and having a means to change an imprint electrical potential difference with the weight.

[Claim 8] Image formation equipment characterized by having a means to change the rotational speed of a photo conductor and a development sleeve, an imprint roller, MAGURORA of the cleaning section or a fur brush, a resist roller, a feed roller, a conveyance roller, a conveyance belt, an electrification roller and a fixing assembly up lower roller, and a web roller with the inputted weight in claim 7.

[Claim 9] Image formation equipment characterized by imprinting by using a blade and a brush for an imprint member in claim 7 or 8.

[Claim 10] Image formation equipment characterized by controlling the imprint current value in claim 7.

[Claim 11] Image-formation equipment characterized by to form a toner image on a photo conductor front face, to have a means measure the volume resistivity of imprint material in the phase before imprinting, in the image formation equipment using the method which makes imprint material imprint the toner on a photo conductor using a roller transfer member using an electrophotography method, and to have the means which carries out adjustable [of an imprint current or the electrical potential difference] automatically with the resistance.

[Claim 12] Image formation equipment characterized by performing a volume-resistivity measurement means using a conductive roller in claim 11.

[Claim 13] Image formation equipment characterized by performing a volume-resistivity measurement means using a conductive film in claim 11.

[Claim 14] Image formation equipment characterized by performing a volume-resistivity measurement means using a conductive brush in-claim 11.

[Claim 15] Image formation equipment characterized by serving as the roller for other feedings of a roller in claim 12.

[Claim 16] Image formation equipment characterized by having variable resistance in the circuit at the time of impressing an electrical potential difference to the imprint roller which imprints into an imprint part in the image formation equipment which forms a toner image on a photo conductor front face using an electrophotography method, imprints a toner to imprint material, and performs image formation.

[Claim 17] It sets to claim 16 and the resistance of variable resistance is 109. Image formation equipment characterized by being the resistance more than omega.

[Claim 18] Image formation equipment characterized by the resistance of variable resistance being 10 or more times of the resistance of an imprint roller in claim 16.

[Claim 19] Image formation equipment characterized by having claims 16 and 17 or the variable resistance of 18 to the configuration charged in a latent image without business by using a roller electrification member in case a latent-image image is formed on a photo conductor in the circuit at the time of impressing an electrical potential difference to an electrification roller.

[Claim 20] It is 109 in the circuit at the time of impressing an electrical potential difference to an imprint roller in the image formation equipment using the method which a toner image is formed [method] on a photo conductor front face using an electrophotography method, and makes imprint material imprint the toner on a photo conductor using a roller transfer member. Image formation equipment characterized by having resistance with the resistance more than omega.

[Claim 21] Image formation equipment characterized by having resistance with resistance bigger 10 or more times than the resistance of an imprint roller in claim 20.

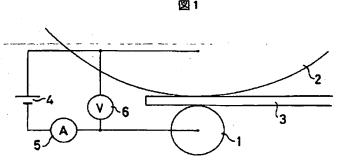
[Claim 22] Image formation equipment characterized by resistance serving as the shaft of an imprint roller in claim 20 or 21.

[Claim 23] Image formation equipment characterized by having claims 20 and 21 or resistance of 22 in the electrification roller circuit in the image formation equipment which forms a latent-image image using roller electrification.

[Claim 24] The image-formation equipment characterized by to establish a means clean a guide automatically, on the guide which carries out sheet conveyance in the image-formation equipment which contains many sheets to the method of the inside of an airframe, and it has sheet receipt equipment with which it equipped free [attachment and detachment], and paper is fed to the sheet in the sheet receipt equipment, and the sheet has the inside of an airframe conveyed, and is discharged outside the plane, or is again contained by the inside of a plane.

[Translation done.]

Drawing selection Representative drawing



[Translation done.]

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CLAIMS

[Claim(s)]

[Claim 1] In the image formation equipment using the method which a toner image is formed [method] on a photo conductor front face using an electrophotography method, and makes imprint material imprint the toner on a photo conductor using a roller transfer member Image formation equipment characterized by having the means which tries and carries out the sink of the imprint material before real copy actuation initiation, and having a means to measure the current, electrical potential difference, or volume resistivity between imprint roller - imprint material - a photo conductor in the condition that imprint material is caught between the imprint roller and the photo conductor in that case.

[Claim 2] Image formation equipment characterized by having a means to control an imprint current in claim 1 based on the measured current, electrical potential difference, or resistance.

[Claim 3] Image formation equipment characterized by having a means to control an imprint electrical potential difference by the measured current, electrical potential difference, or resistance in claim 1. [Claim 4] Image formation equipment characterized by performing timing which operates 1 a certain whole regularity in claim 1 at the time of every number, medium tray selection, or the ** main switch ON at the time of ** copy actuation.

[Claim 5] Image formation equipment characterized by saving primarily the imprint material which tried by actuation and performed the sink in claim 1 in a body, and using again at the time of a copy. [Claim 6] Image formation equipment characterized by saving imprint material in a body in claim 5 temporarily at the time of actuation, without letting a fixing assembly pass.

[Claim 7] Image formation equipment characterized by forming a toner image on a photo conductor front face using an electrophotography method, having a means to input the weight of imprint material into the body of a machine, in the image formation equipment using the method which makes imprint material imprint the toner on a photo conductor using a roller transfer member, and having a means to change an imprint electrical potential difference with the weight.

[Claim 8] Image formation equipment characterized by having a means to change the rotational speed of a photo conductor and a development sleeve, an imprint roller, MAGURORA of the cleaning section or a fur brush, a resist roller, a feed roller, a conveyance roller, a conveyance belt, an electrification roller and a fixing assembly up lower roller, and a web roller with the inputted weight in claim 7.

[Claim 9] Image formation equipment characterized by imprinting by using a blade and a brush for an imprint member in claim 7 or 8.

[Claim 10] Image formation equipment characterized by controlling the imprint current value in claim 7.

[Claim 11] Image-formation equipment characterized by to form a toner image on a photo conductor front face, to have a means measure the volume resistivity of imprint material in the phase before imprinting, in the image formation equipment using the method which makes imprint material imprint the toner on a photo conductor using a roller transfer member using an electrophotography method, and to have the means which carries out adjustable [of an imprint current or the electrical potential difference] automatically with the resistance.

[Claim 12] Image formation equipment characterized by performing a volume-resistivity measurement means using a conductive roller in claim 11.

[Claim 13] Image formation equipment characterized by performing a volume-resistivity measurement means using a conductive film in claim 11.

[Claim 14] Image formation equipment characterized by performing a volume-resistivity measurement means using a conductive brush in claim 11.

[Claim 15] Image formation equipment characterized by serving as the roller for other feedings of a roller in claim 12.

[Claim 16] Image formation equipment characterized by having variable resistance in the circuit at the time of impressing an electrical potential difference to the imprint roller which imprints into an imprint part in the image formation equipment which forms a toner image on a photo conductor front face using an electrophotography method, imprints a toner to imprint material, and performs image formation.

[Claim 17] It sets to claim 16 and the resistance of variable resistance is 109. Image formation equipment characterized by being the resistance more than omega.

[Claim 18] Image formation equipment characterized by the resistance of variable resistance being 10 or more times of the resistance of an imprint roller in claim 16.

[Claim 19] Image formation equipment characterized by having claims 16 and 17 or the variable resistance of 18 to the configuration charged in a latent image without business by using a roller electrification member in case a latent-image image is formed on a photo conductor in the circuit at the time of impressing an electrical potential difference to an electrification roller.

[Claim 20] It is 109 in the circuit at the time of impressing an electrical potential difference to an imprint roller in the image formation equipment using the method which a toner image is formed [method] on a photo conductor front face using an electrophotography method, and makes imprint material imprint the toner on a photo conductor using a roller transfer member. Image formation equipment characterized by having resistance with the resistance more than omega.

[Claim 21] Image formation equipment characterized by having resistance with resistance bigger 10 or more times than the resistance of an imprint roller in claim 20.

[Claim 22] Image formation equipment characterized by resistance serving as the shaft of an imprint roller in claim 20 or 21.

[Claim 23] Image formation equipment characterized by having claims 20 and 21 or resistance of 22 in the electrification roller circuit in the image formation equipment which forms a latent-image image using roller electrification.

[Claim 24] The image-formation equipment characterized by to establish a means clean a guide automatically, on the guide which carries out sheet conveyance in the image-formation equipment which contains many sheets to the method of the inside of an airframe, and it has sheet receipt equipment with which it equipped free [attachment and detachment], and paper is fed to the sheet in the sheet receipt equipment, and the sheet has the inside of an airframe conveyed, and is discharged outside the plane, or is again contained by the inside of a plane.

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[Detailed Description of the Invention]

[0001]

[Industrial Application] This invention relates to the image formation equipment which performs latentimage formation or an imprint using an imprint roller or corona discharge.

[Description of the Prior Art]

The <conventional example 1> Conventionally, in the image formation equipment which imprints using an imprint roller, control of the imprint roller according to the class of imprint material is not performed, but it is constituted so that an imprint roller may be controlled only about condition change of the imprint roller by the environment, durable change, etc.

[0003] The <conventional example 2> In the image formation equipment which imprints again using an imprint roller In order that control of the imprint conditions according to the class of imprint material may not be performed but the property of an imprint roller may change with change of an environment, durability, etc. a lot In order to calculate the resistance of an imprint roller for the current which exists in a tentative way from a sink and the electrical-potential-difference value at that time in order to obtain the fixed amount of currents, and to obtain a certain fixed amount of currents also in the case of the change in resistance of an imprint roller, the method of controlling applied voltage is used.

[0004] Moreover, in the equipment which is imprinting using the roller transfer method, about imprint material, imprint conditions are not controlled by the class of the imprint material, and the property, but size is detected with automatic or hand control only about the size as a class of imprint material, and it is constituted so that the impression timing of an imprint current may be controlled.

[0005] The <conventional example 3> When the change in resistance of the roller arises by the environment or durability again also in the image formation equipment which performs **** latent-image formation for **-proof rollers, the applied voltage is changed and it has the composition that the approach of controlling a current value uniformly is taken.

[0006] The <conventional example 4> In image formation equipment, the means which carries out automatic cleaning of the guide is not established again, but manual cleaning by the serviceman or the user is performed to the dirt of a guide, and there is nothing that took a configuration which uses the method which carries out automatic cleaning of the guide.

[Problem(s) to be Solved by the Invention] However, in the above-mentioned conventional example 1, only control with an imprint roller simple substance was performed, but since change of imprint conditions including imprint material was not considered, there were the following faults.

[0008] Even if it controls by stabilizing an imprint roller, actually, by the difference in the volume-resistivity value of imprint material, imprint conditions change a lot, what was copied is that imprint conditions change and a poor imprint, such as an imprint omission, may generate it.

[0009] Moreover, in the above-mentioned conventional example 2, current value control on count was performed to the change in resistance of an imprint roller, and since imprint material performed

detection about the size and had only controlled impression timing, it had the following faults. [0010] The resistance in the condition that imprint material was actually caught between the imprint roller and the photo conductor may differ from the current value acquired by performing current value control on count of an imprint roller, and the amount of currents at the time of a actual imprint changes with the properties of imprint material.

[0011] Therefore, even if it performs current value control on count, an imprint current value changes with the properties of imprint material, a poor imprint arises, and a good image is not necessarily obtained.

[0012] Moreover, as information on imprint material, since deer detection was not carried out only about the size until now, electrical-potential-difference value control by the class and the property was not performed, but the current value on count differed from the actual current value.

[0013] Moreover, in the above-mentioned conventional example 3, since the approach of controlling the applied voltage was taken to the change in resistance of an electrification roller, there were the following faults.

[0014] There was a problem that the total currents of the body of a machine ran short according to them since applied voltage is controlled by durability and the environment when the change is big.

[0015] Moreover, the capacity of the power source which had to give allowances to the power source by controlling an electrical potential difference, and counted upon change was required.

[0016] Moreover, in order to control an electrical potential difference, when a big electrical potential difference is impressed, in order to raw-elasticity-*** and not to make leak leak between a photo conductor, a separation member, etc., the control range is restricted. There were the above problems. [0017] Moreover, in the above-mentioned conventional example 4, the means which carries out automatic cleaning of the guide had the following faults, in order that there might be nothing and a

automatic cleaning of the guide had the following faults, in order that there might be nothing and a serviceman or a user might clean manually also to the dirt of a guide again.

[0018] In order that a serviceman or a user might clean, the dirt of a part which is not visible to the eye which only the part which the part which is visible to the eye on a guide, or a hand reaches is cleaned, and a hand does not reach was not able to be carried out what, either.

[0019] Moreover, if a serviceman cleans periodically, the time amount at the time of service will be taken, and service cost will also be raised. Moreover, since a serviceman and a user were troublesome, the cleaning was not performed, but paper powder, dust, and toner dust adhered to the sheet, and there were problems, like a sheet becomes dirty.

[0020]

[Means for Solving the Problem and its Function] This invention solves many above-mentioned problems, and the solution means is as given in said each claim. And the operation is as follows. [0021] When according to the means of claims 1-6 imprint material is tried, a sink is carried out and imprint material is between an imprint roller and a photo conductor before performing a actual copy By establishing a means to measure the resistance between an imprint roller, imprint material, and a photo conductor It carries out becoming possible to perform control which served as change of both an imprint roller and imprint material, becoming possible to give the imprint current always stabilized on the imprint roller on the better conditions at the time of a actual copy, preventing a poor imprint, such as an imprint omission, it always being stabilized, depending, and obtaining a good image as it is possible. [0022] According to the means of claims 7-10, it has a means to input the weight of imprint material into the body of a machine. (1) With the weight of the imprint material by which (2) inputs to which the applied voltage at the time of an imprint is changed with the weight of the inputted imprint material were carried out, the photo conductor at the time of an imprint, The magnet roller of a development sleeve and the cleaning section, or a fur brush, By establishing a means of the above (1) and (2) to change the rotational speed of a resist roller, a feed roller, a conveyance roller, a conveyance belt, an electrification roller and a fixing assembly up lower roller, and a web roller Even if the weight of imprint material changes, it can become possible to keep constant the amount of imprint currents in that case, and can imprint on the imprint conditions (a current or rate) in the always stabilized conditions, and the stable good image can be obtained.

[0023] By according to the means of claims 11-15, having a means to measure the volume resistivity of imprint material in the phase before imprinting, and establishing the means which carries out adjustable -f-of-an-imprint-electrical potential difference or the current] automatically with the resistance It can protect, and it is stabilized, and can depend [it can become possible to perform control which served as both change of an imprint roller and the volume resistivity of imprint material and the imprint conditions on real copy actuation can be stabilized, and I for a poor imprint, such as an imprint omission, and a good image can be obtained.

[0024] Variable resistance is prepared on the circuit which impresses an electrical potential difference to an imprint roller or an electrification roller according to the means of claims 16-19, and it is the resistance 109 By preparing more than omega or resistance of 10 or more times of the resistance of a roller The total resistance in the whole circuit can obtain the fixed amount of currents by changing the value of variable resistance, without making it change, without changing input voltage, when the resistance of a roller changes with durability and environments.

[0025] Moreover, it is the resistance 109 In order for the rate depending on the change in resistance of a roller to become very small and to be greatly dependent on the resistance of variable resistance by considering as more than omega or resistance of 10 or more times of the resistance of a roller, also when roller resistance changes a lot, the resistance of variable resistance also becomes possible [controlling easily], without making it change a lot.

[0026] Therefore, the fixed current value stabilized in always inputting a fixed electrical potential difference can be acquired, without controlling input voltage.

[0027] According to the means of claims 20-23, resistance with resistance bigger enough than resistance of an imprint roller is prepared on the circuit at the time of impressing an electrical potential difference to an imprint roller. Actually By preparing resistance stronger about 1-5 figures than the resistance of an imprint roller Without always keeping the resistance of the synthesis on a circuit constant, and being dependent on the change in resistance of an imprint roller, even if the resistance value change of the imprint roller by the environment, durability, etc. arises, it is impressing a fixed electrical potential difference, and makes it possible to acquire the stable fixed imprint current.

[0028] According to the means of claim 24, by establishing a means to clean a guide automatically, on the guide which conveys a sheet, automatic cleaning of the conveyance guide is carried out periodically, and it makes it possible to remove the paper powder which adhered on the guide, dust, and toner dust, and periodical cleaning by the serviceman or the user is made unnecessary. [0029]

[Example] Claim 1 thru/or the example of 6 are explained about drawing 1 thru/or 4.

[0030] drawing 1 thru/or drawing 2 -- the 1st example of this invention -- being shown -- drawing 1 -one of the descriptions of this invention -- most -- good -- expressing.

[0031] For photo conductors, such as a photoconductor drum, and 3, as for a power source and 5, in drawing 1, imprint material and 4 are [1/an imprint roller and 2/an ammeter and 6] voltmeters.

[0032] According to the flow chart shown in drawing 2, a push copy is started for a copy carbon button from a copy actuation O.K. condition.

[0033] Copy actuation is not performed suddenly, but first, in that case, one imprint material (for example, paper) is tried, and a sink is carried out at it. In the condition that the imprint material which tried and performed the sink is between an imprint roller and a photo conductor as for a way, a powersource 4 blank-test current (for example, -1mA) is impressed, the electrical potential difference which flows to the imprint roller at that time, imprint material, and a photo conductor is measured, and all resistance is calculated from the force current and the relation of applied voltage.

[0034] In that case, it can ask for a current (I), an electrical potential difference (V), and the relation of

resistance (R) easily from Ohm's law (V=IR).

[0035] Then, applied voltage required in order to acquire an imprint current (for example, -20mA) required in order to count backward and to perform the imprint optimal originally from the calculated resistance is determined.

[0036] the electrical potential difference which boiled when the optimal applied voltage could be

- determined here, next was now determined in actual copy actuation is impressed.
- [0037] By this approach, before copying imprint material, a sink is tried and carried out, it becomes possible to give the imprint current always stabilized to change of all conditions by controlling an imprint electrical potential difference by all the resistance of an imprint roller, and an imprint material and a photo conductor, and the optimal imprint is performed and it becomes that it is possible to prevent a poor imprint, such as an imprint omission.
- [0038] <an example 2> -- drawing 3 -- the 2nd example of this invention -- being shown -- this drawing -- setting -- the same member as drawing 1 -- the same sign -- giving -- 7 -- a feed roller and 8 -- a conveyance roller and 9 -- a conveyance guide and 10 -- a reversal guide and 11 -- for the 2nd flapper and 14, as for an electric discharge needle and 16, a conveyance belt and 15 are [a fixing assembly and 12 / the 1st flapper and 13 / a double-sided multiplex re-feeding unit and 17] medium trays.

 [0039] According to this example, without discharging the imprint material which tried on the example
- [0039] According to this example, without discharging the imprint material which tried on the example 1 and carried out the sink, it conveys to both sides, multiplex, and the re-feeding unit 16 using the 1st flapper 12, and the paper is reused to the case of either the last or copy.
- [0040] The measuring method of other concrete resistance is the same as that of an example 1. Even when using this approach, and imprint material tries and a sink is performed, since the imprint material which tried and performed the sink is used again, it is effective in a deployment being possible, without being discharged vainly.
- [0041] <Example 3> In an example 1 thru/or 2, when the timing which performs the control is done for all cassettes not the time of a ** copy but first thing in the morning and each cassette is chosen, the approach of impressing each ideal electrical potential difference may be used.
- [0042] In this case, the approach of carrying out only at the time of the beginning which carried out every 1000 sheets, for example, or chose each cassette etc. may be used.
- [0043] <Example 4> In an example 1 2 thru/or 3, although the control is controlled by the approach of using the test current as a sink and using a current value regularity, the approach of controlling by the electrical potential difference using the same approach may be used.
- [0044] < Example 5> <u>Drawing 4</u> shows the 5th example of this invention, in this drawing, 18 is the 3rd flapper and 19 is a conveyance guide.
- [0045] In case the imprint material which tried on the example 2 and carried out the sink is conveyed to both sides, multiplex, and a re-feeding unit according to this example, the 3rd flapper and 18 are prepared between a conveyance belt and a fixing assembly, the imprint material is conveyed by the flapper, without letting the inside of a fixing assembly pass, and it makes it possible to contain to a double-sided multiplex re-feeding unit.
- [0046] By using this approach, in order to reuse the imprint material which tried and carried out the sink, without letting a fixing assembly pass, the conditions of that imprint material do not change a lot, either, but are effective in enabling reuse in the better condition.
- [0047] Next, claim 7 thru/or the example of 10 are explained about drawing 5 thru/or 10.
- [0048] <Example 6> <u>Drawing 5</u> thru/or <u>drawing 7</u> show the example 6 of this invention, <u>drawing 5</u> is a drawing of the description of this invention which expresses one best, and 101 is a weight switch panel in this drawing.
- [0049] drawing 6 -- setting -- 102 -- a weight switch dial and 103 -- a sheet paper cassette and 104 -- for a jam processing door and 107, as for a control unit and 109, a delivery guide and 108 are [the body of a machine, and 105 / the manual bypass section and 106 / a pressure plate and 110] BEDEISUTARU.
- [0050] When imprint material (for example, regular paper) is set to a sheet paper cassette 103 in the above-mentioned configuration, the weight of imprint material is inputted by the dial 102 and panel 101 which input the weight of the imprint material.
- [0051] The condition is changed, whenever it prepares a panel in the cassette transverse part and changes imprint material in that case, as shown in $\underline{\text{drawing } 6}$.
- [0052] And the electrical potential difference inputted as the weight of the imprint material set by the dial shows to <u>drawing 7</u> is controlled.
- [0053] For example, the set imprint material is 60 g/m2. If it is the following, and many -0.5kV is

impressed to the usually impressed electrical potential difference (for example, -4kV), it will be total and -4.5kV will be impressed in order to acquire the usual optimal imprint current (for example, -30microA), when the imprint material is ****(ed), it will become possible to acquire the value near -30micro of optimal imprint currents A. An electrical potential difference shall be similarly changed to the imprint material of other weight.

[0054] It is effective in the ability to acquire the optimal imprint current by carrying out a dial set by changing applied voltage to the weight of imprint material using this approach, even when the weight of imprint material differs.

[0055] <Example 7> Drawing 8 thru/or drawing 9 show the 7th example, and sets it to drawing 8. 111 Photo conductors, such as a photoconductor drum, 112 an electric discharge needle and 114 for an imprint roller and 113 A magnet roller or a fur brush, 115 an electrification roller and 117 for a cleaning blade and 116 A development sleeve, 118 a resist roller and a conveyance roller, and 120 for a conveyance guide and 119 A feed roller, 121 -- a pickup roller and 122 -- for a conveyance belt and 125, as for a fixing roller and 127, an application-of-pressure roller and 126 are [a cassette tray and 123 / imprint material and 124 / a web roller and 128] fixation inlet-port guides.

[0056] When the conditions of imprint material as well as an example 6 are set, as this drawing is shown in drawing 9, imprint material is 60 - 80 g/m2. The rotational speed of main motor capacity is determined that the rotational speed of the photo conductor will become a case with 120 mm/sec. It becomes possible to make imprint conditions regularity by the rotational speed of the imprint roller 122, a magnet roller or the fur brush 114, the electrification roller 116, the development sleeve 117, a resist roller and the conveyance roller 119, the feed roller 120, a pickup roller 121, the conveyance belt 124, the application-of-pressure roller 125, a fixing roller 126, and the web roller 127 also changing, and changing a rate in connection with it.

[0057] Moreover, in order for the rate of a fixing assembly to also change in this case and to be dependent on the weight of imprint material, it is advantageous also to fixable [that]. [0058] <Example 8> Drawing 10 is drawing showing the 8th example.

[0059] In making an electrical potential difference regularity like an example 6 in this drawing rather than making a current regularity for the imprint condition like an example 6 after inputting the weight of imprint material the current (-30microA) usually passed in order to obtain the optimal electrical potential difference (for example, -4kV) -- receiving -15microA -- many -- a sink, if it is total and -45microA passes When the imprint material is ****(ed), it becomes possible to obtain the optimal imprint electrical potential difference of -4kV, and the same effectiveness is acquired by controlling a current value to the imprint material of other weight similarly.

[0060] <Example 9> Since it is easy to be influenced of mist beam imprint material in the system which imprints by using a blade and a brush instead of a roller only in the system using an imprint roller in an example 6 thru/or 8, an imprint on the good conditions stabilized similarly can be performed by controlling using the same approach.

[0061] <Example 10> Prepare the part which inputs the weight of the imprint material in an example 6 thru/or 9 on a control unit, it prepares in the interior of a cassette, or there are also approaches, such as making a switch into the carbon button type instead of a dial.

[0062] Moreover, if the switch conditions of imprint material are set up finely, it will become possible to perform more accurate control.

[0063] Next, claim 11 thru/or the example of 15 are explained about drawing 11 thru/or 14.

[0064] <Example 11> <u>Drawing 11</u> thru/or <u>drawing 12</u> show the 11th example of this invention. <u>Drawing 11</u> is a drawing of the description of this invention which expresses one best, and it sets to this drawing. 201,203 The roller revolving shaft for volume-resistivity measurement, 201,204 The roller surface conductive rubber layer for volume-resistivity measurement (for example, EPDM etc.), For a power source and 206, as for a voltmeter and 208, an ammeter and 207 are [205 / CPU (processing/count section) and 209] imprint material, and, as for a pickup roller and 211,212, 210 is [a feed roller and 213] vertical pass conveyance guides in <u>drawing 12</u>.

[0065] In the above-mentioned configuration, paper is fed to the imprint material 209 with a pickup

roller 210 and the feed roller 211,212. The roller for volume-resistivity measurement which is conveyed and consists of a roller revolving shaft 201,203 for volume-resistivity measurement, and this surface conductive rubber layer 202,204 through the vertical pass-guide 213 (it considers as the-roller pair for volume-resistivity measurement by making these [201, 202, and 203,204] into a group hereafter.) The roller pair section is started, and if imprint material will be caught in a roller pair, test current will be passed from a power source 205 by the roller pair for volume-resistivity measurement. Thus, if imprint material passes a current to this roller pair in the condition of having been caught in the roller pair for volume-resistivity measurement, the current and electrical potential difference on which imprint material is resisting and flows will change. It is measured with an ammeter 206 and a voltmeter 207, and each measured value is sent to CPU (processing/count section)208 as a signal.

[0066] At this time, imprint material of a way is not in the roller pair for volume-resistivity measurement, that is, the condition that anything does not have resistance is measured as a reference, and if it measures similarly after that where imprint material is caught, it will become possible to get to know only resistance of imprint material easily.

[0067] CPU which got to know the volume-resistivity value of imprint material becomes possible [determining the current value (or electrical-potential-difference value) which should count-backward from the resistance of imprint material and should be passed on an imprint roller], in order to pass the ideal current value (for example, -20microA) which should flow between the imprint rollers and photo conductors which are originally a target.

[0068] Thus, the volume resistivity of imprint material is measured and it becomes possible to perform an imprint on always more good conditions by making adjustable automatically an imprint current (or electrical potential difference) according to change of imprint material and the environment of imprint material, and other conditions change.

[0069] <Example 12> Although it measures the volume-resistivity value of imprint material in an example 11 although there is no drawing for using for explanation in an example 12, and it sends it to CPU, it is not in the ideal current value between an imprint roller and a photo conductor, and controls an electrical-potential-difference value in the meantime.

[0070] In order to obtain the ideal electrical potential difference (for example, -5kV) which should flow between an imprint roller and a photo conductor, control as shown in an example 11 is performed. [0071] <Example 13> Drawing 13 shows the 13th example and, for 214, as for an imprint inlet-port guide and 216, a photo conductor and 215 are [an imprint roller shaft and 217] imprint roller surface conductive rubber layers (for example, EPDM etc.) (216,217 is doubled below and it considers as an imprint roller) in this drawing.

[0072] The roller pair for volume-resistivity measurement explained in the example 11 is near an imprint inlet-port guide, and this roller pair becomes possible [serving also as a resist roller]. Moreover, in this example, also about an imprint roller, the current between the roller and photo conductor, an electrical potential difference, or resistance is measured actually, and it becomes possible to determine the ideal current value (or electrical-potential-difference value) actually passed on an imprint roller from both the measured value and the volume-resistivity value of imprint material.

[0073] <Example 14> <u>Drawing 14</u> shows the 14th example, in this drawing, 218 is a conveyance guide plate and 219,220 is a conductive film for volume-resistivity measurement.

[0074] This film (for example, Pc) is used instead of the roller pair for volume-resistivity measurement explained in the old example, and the volume resistivity of imprint material is measured.

[0075] <Example 15> This brush (for example, Pc) is used instead of the conductive film for volume-resistivity measurement shown in an example 14, and the volume resistivity of imprint material is measured.

[0076] next, claim 16 thru/or the example of 19 -- <u>drawing 15</u> R> -- 5 and 16 are explained. [0077] <Example 16> <u>Drawing 15</u> shows the 15th example of this invention, <u>drawing 15</u> is a drawing of the description of this invention which expresses one best, and, for a photo conductor and 303, as for an ammeter and 305, variable resistance and 304 are [301/an imprint roller and 302/a voltmeter and 306] power sources in this drawing.

[0078] In the above-mentioned configuration, (-0.5kV) is read [the test current (for example, -1microA)] for a sink and the electrical-potential-difference value in that case with a voltmeter 305 on an imprint roller, and the resistance of the imprint roller 301 is measured. The resistance of the variable resistance 303 in that case is set up so that it may become a certain reference value.

[0079] then, the resistance of a roller can be calculated from a test current value and an electrical-potential-difference value, and when the electrical potential difference (for example, -5kV) originally impressed is impressed to the acquired resistance, in order to acquire a current value (for example, -20microA) to acquire, it can ask for what should just carry out the whatohm resistance of the whole circuit easily from the formula of V=IR.

[0080] Moreover, if the resistance of the whole circuit can be found, it can ask easily using the formula of R=R1+R2 (the resistance of the whole R:circuit, resistance of an R1:roller, R2: resistance of variable resistance) from the resistance of the roller for which it asked previously.

[0081] Then, by setting variable resistance as the acquired resistance, by impression of fixed input voltage, it becomes possible to acquire the optimal imprint current, and the stable imprint can be obtained and twisted.

[0082] As a sequence which determines the resistance of this variable resistance, it is good to carry out by the time of a main switch ON, and the periodical sequence of every 500 sheets first thing in the morning.

[0083] < Example 17> Suppose that it is the same as that of drawing of an example 16 as drawing for using for explanation in an example 17.

[0084] In this example, the same configuration as an example 16 is taken, and it sets in the example 16, and is the resistance of the variable resistance 109 It considers as the resistance more than omega.
[0085] When the resistance of variable resistance is big enough, the change in resistance of an imprint roller stops almost influencing to the resistance of an imprint roller depending on variable resistance with the bigger resistance of the whole circuit than that of resistance in this. For the reason, even when the change in resistance of a roller is big, most of the variable resistance can perform control in the very narrow range, without changing, and it is effective in the ability to narrow width of face of the change in resistance of variable resistance.

<Example 18> In this example, although the basic configuration is the same as that of examples 16 and 17, it shall use the variable resistance of resistance (for example, more than 108 omega) of 10 or more times of the resistance for the resistance of variable resistance to the resistance (for example, 106 omega) of initial resistance of an imprint roller.

[0086] the resistance of the resistance used for example, for the imprint roller by this -- 104 even if it is a very small efficient roller like omega -- the change in resistance of the roller -- not depending -- in addition -- and the thing with sufficient collapsibility to acquire for a more stable image becomes possible with it being possible to acquire the imprint current which lessened the loss by using variable resistance which does not drop the goodness of the effectiveness, either, and was always stabilized in fixed input voltage.

[0087] < Example 19> <u>Drawing 16</u> shows the 19th example and 307 is an electrification roller in this drawing.

[0088] It becomes possible to perform the configuration control same, also when the roller is not an imprint roller but an electrification roller and same [about a basic configuration and control, are the same as that of an example 16 thru/or 18,], and it is effective in becoming possible to acquire the stable fixed current also to the change in resistance of an electrification roller by performing same control with a variable-resistance value, and being able to form the stable latent-image image on the circuit of an electrification roller.

[0089] next, claim 20 thru/or the example of 23 -- <u>drawing 17 R> -- 7</u> and 18 are explained. [0090] <Example 20> <u>Drawing 17</u> shows the 20th example of this invention, <u>drawing 17</u> is a drawing of the description of this invention which expresses one best, and, for a photo conductor and 403, as for a power source and 405, resistance and 404 are [401 / an imprint roller and 402 / a voltmeter and 406] ammeters in this drawing.

[0091] Although a current (for example, -20microA) is impressed from a power source 404 in the above-mentioned configuration when imprint material is caught between the imprint roller 401 and a -photo-conductor 402 Can consider that it is one resistance-virtually-between the imprint roller 401 - a photo conductor 402 on the configuration of this circuit, and this resistance is received, the resistance -101 -105 extent -- forming the strong resistance 3 in a circuit -- the total resistance in this circuit -R=R1-2+R3 (R1-2 -- an imprint roller - a photo conductor --)-R3-It is resisting and is R3. Resistance is
R1-2. If it compares and is resistance (about 101 -105 twice) strong enough, the total resistance in a circuit is R3. It depends.

[0092] Even when the resistance of an imprint roller changes with durability and environments a lot for the reason, the resistance on a circuit becomes possible [performing constant current control stabilized by impression of an always fixed electrical potential difference, without controlling input voltage in order to be dependent on another resistance on a circuit, without being dependent on change of an imprint roller], and it is stabilized, and it can depend, and an imprint on good conditions can be performed.

[0093] < Example 21> Suppose that it is the same as that of drawing of an example 20 as drawing for using for explanation in an example 21.

[0094] In this example, the same configuration as an example 20 shall be taken, and resistance (for example, 108 omega) of 10 or more times shall be used for resistance 403 for resistance rather than the resistance to the initial resistance (for example, 106 omega) of an imprint roller in an example 20. [0095] the resistance which is this, for example, was used for the imprint roller -- 104 the case where it is a very small efficient roller like omega -- the resistance value change -- not depending -- in addition -- and it becomes possible to acquire the imprint current always stabilized with fixed input voltage by using resistance which does not drop the goodness of the effectiveness, either, and the better thing to acquire for a stable image becomes possible.

[0096] <Example 22> <u>Drawing 18</u> shows the 22nd example and, as for rodding and 408, 407 is [an electrical-conductive-gum layer and 409] surface coat layers in this drawing.

[0097] Although stronger resistance than the resistance of an imprint roller is prepared in a circuit in the circuit containing an imprint roller as examples 20 and 21 explained, the change in resistance by the durability of an imprint roller here and the environment is mainly based on the electrical-conductive-gum layer 408 (for example, EPDM), and the resistance of rodding 407 grade is dramatically small. Then, it becomes possible to omit the useless tooth space on a circuit by using together three stronger resistance than the resistance of the imprint roller in a circuit with rodding of an imprint roller. [0098] That is, it becomes possible to acquire the same effectiveness as examples 20 and 21 by changing the rodding 407 of an imprint roller high resistance (it being resistance stronger 10 or more times than an imprint roller in an example 21 more than 109 omega at an example 1).

[0099] <Example 23> The resistance same on the circuit of the electrification roller in the case of performing a latent image for the configuration used by the example 20 thru/or 21 in the example 23 using roller electrification may be used.

[0100] The basic configuration is the same as that of an example 20 thru/or 22, and it has the effectiveness which it is ineffective to it being possible to acquire the stable fixed current, and can form the stable latent-image image, without using control also to the change in resistance of an electrification roller by having the same configuration as an electrification roller.

[0101] Next, the example of claim 24 is explained about drawing 19 thru/or 26.

[0102] <an example 24> -- drawing 19 thru/or drawing 21 -- the 24th example of this invention -- being shown -- drawing 19 -- setting -- 501 -- the wire rolling-up pulley for actuation, and 502 -- the 1st pulley and 503 -- for a cleaning instrument and 506, as for a motor and 508, a cleaning pad and 507 are [the 2nd pulley and 504 / a wire and 505 / a cleaning member stowage and 509] conveyance guides. Moreover, also in drawing 20 and drawing 2121, it is the same.

[0103] The cleaning pad 506 (both are doubled henceforth and it is called the cleaning section) which usually the cleaning instrument 505, it, and really has composition in the above-mentioned configuration as shown in <u>drawing 20</u> is contained by the stowage 508 of the edge of the conveyance guide 509. At the

time of a certain fixed spacing (or fixed sequence), as shown in <u>drawing 21</u>, it carries out movable [of the motor 507]. The wire rolling-up pulley-501 for actuation is made to ****, by rolling round or -pulling out a wire-504, the cleaning section moves on conveyance stay, with the cleaning pad-506, the paper powder on conveyance stay, dust, toner dust, etc. are removed, and a conveyance guide top will be in an always beautiful condition.

[0104] It is necessary to decide the location of a pulley 501,502 that the wire of the cleaning section rubs a conveyance guide edge from the 1st pulley 502 to the cleaning section, and the 2nd pulley 503 at this time. Moreover, this (the lower part of a pulley comes below a guide) Although a sheet passes through a conveyance guide top at the time of cleaning section receipt, then, the wire is installed so that it may stretch and attach on a guide, and it is preventing from preventing passage of a sheet by this so that a sheet may not be caught in a wire. This may use approaches, such as making the slot same to a guide as the size of a wire otherwise.

[0105] Using an approach which was explained above, by cleaning a conveyance guide top, the dirt on a guide is removed and it becomes possible to prevent the dirt of the sheet at the time of sheet passage.

[0106] <Example 25> Drawing 22 thru/or drawing 23 show the 25th example of this invention, and the basic configuration is the same as that of an example 24 in drawing 22 and drawing 23.

[0107] the above-mentioned configuration -- setting -- both sides of the cleaning instrument 505 -- the cleaning pad 506 -- preparing -- in addition -- and it becomes possible to clean both sides of a conveyance guide by performing the same actuation as an example 24 by it being the same as a conveyance guide, or enlarging a cleaning member a little rather than it.

[0109] <Example 26> Drawing 24 thru/or drawing 26 show the 26th example of this invention, and 510 is the adhesive tape for cleaning in drawing 24 thru/or drawing 26. Although the basic configuration is the same as that of an example 24 thru/or an example 25, in the above-mentioned configuration, a cleaning instrument and not a pad but a cleaning instrument is made a roller type for the cleaning section, and it is constituted so that adhesive tape may be adhered to the front face and dirt may be made to adhere to adhesive tape by installation and revolution of a roller. Moreover, also in this approach, that cleaning approach is the same as that of examples 24 and 25. Thus, it becomes possible to acquire the strong cleaning force also to powerful dirt by making it not make the dirt which adhered once adhere again, and using adhesive tape by using and cleaning adhesive tape in the cleaning section.

[0110] <Example 27> In an example 24 and an example 25, it is good also as a cleaning pad which contained abrasiveses (SiC etc.) in the cleaning pad. In this case, that cleaning capacity goes up by using the pad containing an abrasives further, and it becomes possible to acquire the strong cleaning force also to powerful dirt.

[0111]

[Effect of the Invention] In the electrophotography equipment which imprints using an imprint roller according to claim 1 thru/or invention of 6 as explained above When imprint material is tried, a sink is carried out and imprint material is between an imprint roller and a photo conductor before performing a actual copy By establishing a means to measure the resistance between an imprint roller, imprint material, and a photo conductor It becomes possible to give the always stabilized imprint current to an imprint roller, it becomes possible to perform control which served as change of both an imprint roller and imprint material, a poor imprint, such as an imprint omission, is prevented at the time of a actual copy, and the effectiveness that it is always stabilized, and it can depend and a good image can be obtained is. Moreover, according to claim 7 thru/or invention of 10, have a means to input the weight of imprint material into the body of a machine, and change the applied voltage at the time of an imprint with the weight of the inputted imprint material. With the weight of the inputted imprint material, or the photo conductor at the time of an imprint, a development sleeve, By changing the rotational speed of the magnet roller of the cleaning section and a fur brush, a resist roller, a feed roller, a conveyance roller, a conveyance belt, an electrification roller and a fixing assembly up lower roller, and a web roller Even if the weight of imprint material changes, it becomes possible to control the amount of imprint currents uniformly, an imprint on the always stabilized good conditions can be performed, and it is effective in

the ability to obtain the stable good image.

-[0112] Moreover, according to claim-1-1-thru/or-invention of 15, it-has a means to measure the volume resistivity of imprint material before the imprint of the electrophotography equipment which imprints using an imprint roller. By establishing the means which carries out adjustable [of an imprint electrical potential difference or the imprint current] automatically with the resistance It becomes possible to perform control of the imprint electrical potential difference after taking-into-consideration the difference in the volume resistivity of imprint material, or a current, and is effective in a poor imprint, such as a scale and an imprint omission, being prevented, and being stabilized, being able to depend for stabilization of the imprint conditions on real copy actuation, and being able to obtain a good image. [0113] Moreover, variable resistance is prepared on the circuit which impresses an electrical potential difference to an imprint roller or an electrification roller according to claim 16 thru/or invention of 19, and it is the resistance 109 By preparing more than omega or resistance of 10 or more times of the resistance of a roller The fixed amount of currents can be obtained without changing the total resistance of the whole circuit by changing the resistance of variable resistance, without changing input voltage, when the resistance of a roller changes with durability and environments.

[0114] Moreover, it is the resistance 109 In order for the rate depending on the change in resistance of a roller to become very small and to be greatly dependent on the resistance of variable resistance by considering as more than omega or resistance of 10 or more times of the resistance of a roller, also when roller resistance changes a lot, the resistance of variable resistance also becomes possible [controlling easily], without making it change a lot. Therefore, also in any of an imprint/electrification, it is effective in becoming possible to be able to acquire the fixed current value stabilized in fixed input voltage, without carrying out input voltage change (control), to attach, and to perform stable latent-image formation imprinted and stabilized.

[0115] Moreover, the electrophotography equipment which imprints using an imprint roller according to claim 20 thru/or invention of 23, The resistance which has sufficiently bigger resistance than the resistance of an imprint roller on the circuit at the time of impressing an electrical potential difference to an imprint roller is prepared. Actually By preparing resistance stronger about 1-5 figures than the resistance of an imprint roller Even when the resistance value change of the imprint roller by the environment, durability, etc. arises, the resistance of the synthesis on a circuit is impressing a fixed electrical potential difference, without always being kept constant, without changing and being dependent on the change in resistance of an imprint roller. The always stabilized fixed current can be acquired and it is effective in the ability of fixed applied voltage to attach and perform more stable constant current control in better conditions.

[0116] Moreover, it can prevent carrying out automatic cleaning of the conveyance guide periodically, becoming possible to remove the paper powder which adhered on the guide, dust, and toner dust, and paper powder, dust, and toner dust adhering to a sheet at the time of sheet conveyance, and soiling a sheet by establishing a means to clean a guide automatically, on the guide which conveys a sheet according to invention of claim 24. Moreover, it stops needing periodical cleaning by the serviceman or the user, the time amount at the time of service can be shortened, and it is effective in the ability to lose the burden of making it clean to a user.

[Translation done.]

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